Appl. No. 09/596,650 Amdt. dated November 16, 2006 Reply to Office action of August 1, 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 15-22 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention comprises a tear bar for assisting the separation of a piece of media from a strip of media. The strip of media comprises a surface, a first and second side, and a center portion. The tear bar comprises a first side portion and a second side portion. The first side portion is adapted to abut the surface of the strip of media adjacent to the first side of the strip of media and apply resistance on the strip of media when a longitudinal force is applied to the strip of media. Similarly, the a-second side portion is adapted to abut the surface of the strip of media adjacent to the second side of the strip of media and apply resistance on the strip of media adjacent to the second side of the strip of media and apply resistance on the strip of media when a longitudinal force is applied to the strip of media.

Please replace the paragraphs starting on page 5, line 17 and ending on page 6, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

Media 12 is stored in a media bin or holder 13. In the preferred embodiment, media 12 is fan-folded and a folded stack 15 is stored in bin 13. In other embodiments, media 12 is rolled, in which case means is provided for holding a roll of media and unrolling it to dispense the media. <u>Fan-folded Fan folded media, however, has the advantage of producing relatively flat vouchers and occuplying less space in the presently preferred embodiment.</u>

Turning now to figure 2, media 12 of the present invention comprises a surface 60, first side 56, a second side 58, and a central portion 62. A plurality of perforations 50 are provided on media 12 for assisting the separation of pieces of media from each other. Perforations are preferably arranged in lines 52 that are parallel to the lateral axis of the media. Distance 26.27 between lines 52 is substantially the length of each voucher that may be removed from the media 12. One of the advantages fo the preferred embodiment is that lines 52 provide a convenient location to fan fold media 12. However, it is recognized that other perforation configurations may also be used with the present invention. For example, lines 52 may be placed at an angle to the lateral axis of the media with corresponding adjustments being made to system 10.

2 Doc. #148876 v.1

Appl. No. 09/596,650 Amdt. dated November 16, 2006 Reply to Office action of August 1, 2006

Please replace the paragraphs on page 8, lines 1-4 with the following amended paragraph:

A printer controller 18 is provided for controlling printer 16. Controller 18 may be mechanical or electronic depending on the type of printer. Controller 18 may perform other functions, such as controlling lights and communicating with other devices, such <u>as a computer or gaming device</u>.

Please replace the paragraphs on page 9, lines 11-19 with the following amended paragraph:

Turning now to figures 3, and 4, tear bar 14 is provided for assisting the separation of a voucher from media 12. Tear bar 14 comprises a first side portion 35, a second side portion 36 and a central portion 38. First side portion 35 is adapted to abut surface 60 adjacent to first side 56. Second side portion 36 may is-be adapted to abut surface 60 adjacent to second side 58. Center portion 38 is located between first and second side portions 35 and 36 and it is adapted to abut surface 60 at center portion 62. In the preferred embodiment, the three groups of three bridges 54 roughly correspond to the positions of first side portion 35, second side portion 36, and center portion 38. Thus, when a pulling force is applied by a user to media 12, first and second side portions 35 and 36 and center portion 38 provide friction and stress is applied to bridges 54.

Please replace the paragraphs starting on page 9, line 20 and ending on page 10, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

First side portion 35 may be provided with tapered surfaces so that its height or thickness decreases as the portion is traversed from the first side towards the center of tear bar 14. Similarly, second side portions 35 may be provided with tapered surfaces so that its height or thickness decreases as the portion is traversed from the second side towards the center of tear bar 14. This configuration tends to concentrate stress on a single outer bridge 54 rather than a plurality of bridges when a pulling force is applied. When stress is concentrated on a single

3 Doc. #148876 v.1

Appl. No. 09/596,650 Docket No. 83336-993

Amdt. dated November 16, 2006 Reply to Office action of August 1, 2006

bridge 54, the bridge tends to break more quickly and cleanly. Once the outer most outermost

bridge 54 breaks, stress is transferred to the next bridge until it breaks. This configuration also works well when users who produce a torque by pulling on a corner of media 12 because the torque tends to concentrate the stress even more on an outer bridge 54.

4 Doc. #148876 v.1